

## Ozone Working Group

*Working together to reduce ground-level ozone in the Bay Area*

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District, in cooperation with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Association of Bay Area Governments, is convening an Ozone Working Group (OWG) to help develop the *2004 Ozone Attainment Strategy* for the national 1-hour ozone standard and the *2003 Clean Air Plan* for the California 1-hour ozone standard. We intend for the OWG to be a way for members of the public and interested organizations to be involved at all stages of the planning process. We hope that it will be a useful way to exchange ideas and information.

We encourage representatives of environmental groups, social equity groups, community groups, business groups, cities and counties, U. S. EPA, California Air Resources Board, downwind air districts, other agencies, and interested citizens to participate in the OWG. We are sending invitations to those we know are interested, but **anyone interested in ozone planning for the Bay Area is encouraged to participate.**

We expect the OWG to meet approximately every other month through early 2004. The kick-off meeting is scheduled as follows:

Date: March 27, 2003  
Time: 10:00 a.m. to noon  
Location: MetroCenter Auditorium  
101 Eighth Street  
Oakland, CA

We will post an agenda for the first meeting on this website on or about March 13, 2003. Subsequent meetings will be held at locations around the region.

Our goals for the OWG are to:

- Begin public involvement early in the planning process
- Engage participants in discussions regarding the plan and planning process
- Encourage cooperative working relationship among all participants
- Update participants regularly on the status of planning data and analyses
- Solicit input on each element of the plan as early as possible
- Improve the quality of the final plan
- Solicit input on the logistics, format and/or agendas of the OWG
- Ensure a participatory planning process

In addition, BAAQMD planning staff are available, upon request, to come to meetings of environmental groups, industry councils, community groups or other interested organizations to discuss the ozone strategies and the planning process. Let us know if other outreach would be helpful.

For more information, please contact Henry Hilken, Principal Environmental Planner at 415-749-4642 or [hhilken@baaqmd.gov](mailto:hhilken@baaqmd.gov).